

March 11, 2023

Dear Senator Winfield and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Carrie Delaney and I am writing today regarding raised House Bill No. 6682. I whole-heartedly support the addition of OR "(9)murder committed in the course of commission of a family violence crime, as defined in section 46b-38a." I should not even be having to write this letter today because this should have already been included in the Special Circumstances bill from the start. I believe that more men and women would be SURVIVORS of domestic violent relationships if abusers knew how much they had to lose BEFORE committing these crimes.

My niece, Emily Todd was murdered in December of 2018 when she was just 25-years old. She had her whole life ahead of her. In April of 2022 I sat through a week long trial with her killer, Brandon Roberts . During his trial Brandon Roberts took the stand. I heard many things that will haunt me EVERY SINGLE DAY for the rest of my life. The statement that will haunt me the most is when Brandon Roberts said he couldn't "just pistol whip her"(referring to my niece), implying that she would eventually wake up and implicate him for all of the crimes he had committed. He chose to silence Emily forever and put a bullet in the back of head. Protecting himself and his secrets were more important to him. I believe that if this monster knew he would spend the rest of his life in jail with no chance of parole for ending Emily's life he would have made very different decisions that night and my niece would still be here.

We have got to do better than this. I beg of you, please help save lives and prevent other families from having to go through the heartache that mine is going through.

Thank you so much for your time today,
Carrie Delaney